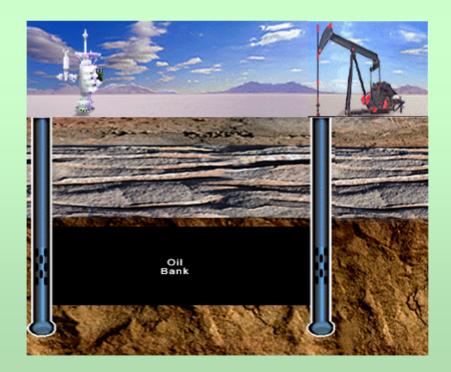




# IEA Weyburn CO<sub>2</sub> Monitoring and Storage Project Weyburn, Saskatchewan, Canada

Dr. Perry Bergman, National Energy Technology Laboratory, US DOE Dr. Waleed Jazrawi, P.Eng., Petroleum Technology Research Centre Dr. Carolyn Preston, P.Eng., CANMET Energy Technology Centre, NRCan









# **Project Mission**

To assess the technical and economic feasibility of geological storage of CO<sub>2</sub> in oil reservoirs and develop implementation guidelines for such projects.

Implicit in the assessment is the identification of the risks associated with this method of CO<sub>2</sub> storage, particularly long-term risks of CO<sub>2</sub> leakage.









### The US DOE Perspective

- We must demonstrate the economic benefits of CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration to ensure the option is viable and will encourage a price for CO<sub>2</sub>
- The US has over 60 world-class EOR projects and is the world leader in this technology area
- The CO<sub>2</sub> being used in this EOR project comes from the US and helps improve the economics of the Dakota Gasification Plant and the associated lignite industry in North Dakota
- Technology development in this area is key to National Energy Security
- The Weyburn field is only using about 40% of the pipeline capacity; there are US producers in the Williston basin waiting to see the technology proven by EnCana
- A large portion of the Williston basin in the US (2/3)
- The value of international collaboration: the total is greater than the sum of parts





### The NRCan Perspective

- Understanding C0<sub>2</sub> capture and geological storage is an important aspect of maintaining the fossil energy option in a carbon-constrained world.
- This project will help ensure public acceptability of this important climate change option
- The results of this project will form part of the justification made by policy makers to exercise this climate change option
- A unique opportunity to monitor CO<sub>2</sub> geological storage from cradle to grave in a single project
- This project has the potential to represent the sustainable development goal: economically viable, environmentally responsible and socially acceptable.
- National and international public and private sector interests converge, giving us a rare opportunity to accomplish normally divergent goals.







# **Project Objectives**

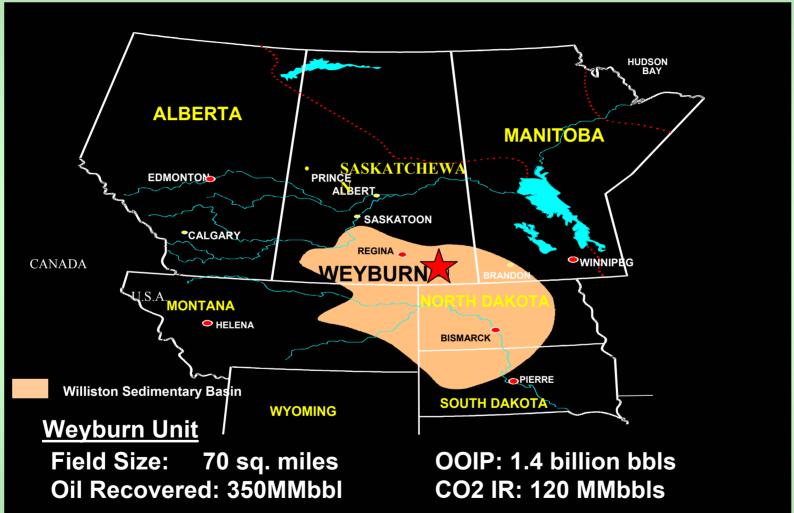
- Define the geoscience framework of the storage medium (the "geosphere")
- Refine CO<sub>2</sub> movement predictions and verification techniques
- Identify the short- and long-term risks of CO<sub>2</sub> migration and leakage
- Improve storage capacity through improved reservoir conformance (CO<sub>2</sub> mobility control, various operating strategies)
- Define the economic limits of CO<sub>2</sub> geological storage



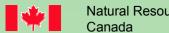




## **Weyburn Field**









## Why Was The Weyburn Unit Selected?

- World-class CO<sub>2</sub>-enhanced oil recovery (EOR) project (CDN \$1.5 billion)
- Easily accessible site
- Substantial historical data base
- Extensively drilled with accurate records
- Pre-injection baseline data could be gathered
- Supportive industrial partner (EnCana Corporation)

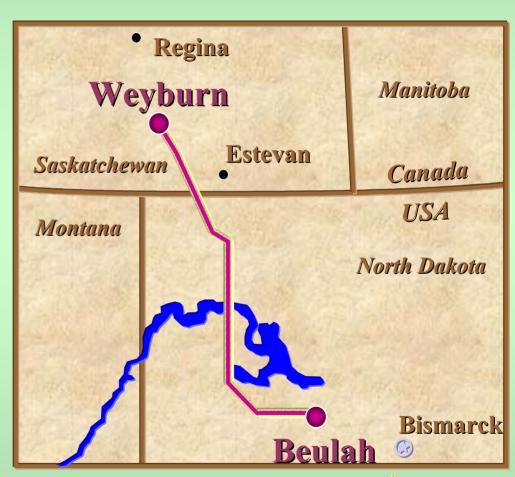






# The Source of CO<sub>2</sub>

- Dakota Gasification Company
- 250 mmscfd CO<sub>2</sub> by-product of coal gasification
- 95 mmscfd contracted and injected at Weyburn
- CO<sub>2</sub> purity 95%







### **Project Sponsors**

\$14 Million in cash

#### **Governments:**

- Saskatchewan Industry & Resources (SIR)
- Natural Resources Canada (NRCan)
- Alberta Energy Research Institute (AERI)
- United States Department of Energy (USDOE)
- European Community (EU)

#### **Industry**:

- EnCana Corporation
- SaskPower
- Nexen Canada
- TotalFinaElf
- ChevronTexaco

- BP
- Dakota Gasification Co.
- TransAlta Utilities Corp.
- Engineering Advancement Association of Japan







#### **Research Providers**

#### \$14 Million in kind

#### Canada

- EnCana Corporation
- Saskatchewan Industry & Resources
- Saskatchewan Research Council
- University of Alberta
- University of Calgary
- University of Saskatchewan
- University of Regina
- J.D. Mollard and Associates Ltd.
- Alberta Research Council
- Geological Survey of Canada (NRCan)
- Hampson Russell-Veritas
- Rakhit Petroleum Consulting
- Ecomatters Inc.
- Canadian Energy Research Institute

#### **United States**

- Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory
- Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory
- Colorado School of Mines
- Monitor Scientific LLC
- North Dakota Geological Survey

#### **Europe**

- British Geological Survey (UK)
- BRGM (France)
- GEUS (Denmark)
- ING (Italy)
- Quintessa Ltd. (UK)





# **Project Communication**

- Integration of all project elements is essential for determining long-term integrity of CO<sub>2</sub> storage
- There are over 20 research providers and 15 project sponsors making communication and IP management a big challenge
- eRoom has enabled a huge database of technical and management information to be shared in confidence by all project participants
- Use of eRoom early in the project ensured use of common tools by project participants, ensuring information compatibility
- eRoom information includes technical management committee minutes, project control documents, quarterly and annual reports, presentations and publications, etc.
- eRoom has the capability to allow for on-line virtual meetings





### **Project Scope – Principal Tasks**

- Field Performance Monitoring
- Geoscience Framework (Geosphere)
- Geochemical Monitoring & Modeling
- Caprock and Wellbore Integrity
- Seismic Tracking of CO<sub>2</sub>
- Numerical Simulation of CO<sub>2</sub> Movement
- Long-Term CO<sub>2</sub> Fate Assessment
- CO<sub>2</sub> Storage Economic Model

Note: Principal tasks are subdivided into 31 sub-tasks, each managed by a team of research providers.



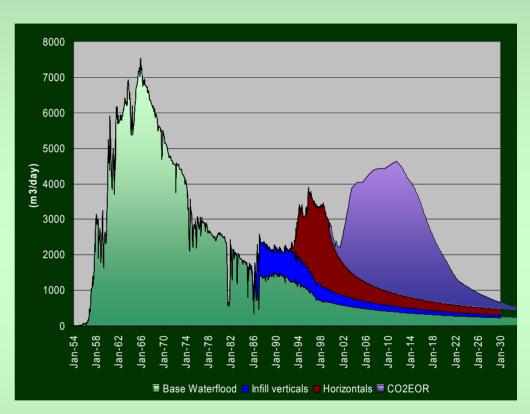


### **Operations**



# **Update** (from Sept. 2000 – Dec. 2002)

- CO<sub>2</sub> injection into Phase 1A started Sept. 2000
- CO<sub>2</sub>-EOR flood to 2025
- 20 M tons of CO<sub>2</sub> stored over 25 yrs
- Commercial project is rolling out beyond the Phase 1A monitoring project area
- Current CO<sub>2</sub> purchase: 3700 t/day
- 29% injected gas recycle
- 2.71 M tons injected to the end of Dec. 2002 (1.7 tons stored)
- 4.14 M tons injected to the end of Dec. 2003 (2.7 tons stored)
- Current incremental production: 4500 bbl/day (~ 25% total)









# **Monitoring CO<sub>2</sub> Movement**



#### **Techniques**

- 4D, 3C surface seismic
- 4D, 9C surface seismic
- 3D, 3C vertical seismic profile (VSP)
- Cross-well seismic (H and V wells)
- Passive micro-seismic
- Geochemical sampling analysis
- Tracer injection monitoring
- Conventional produced fluid analysis



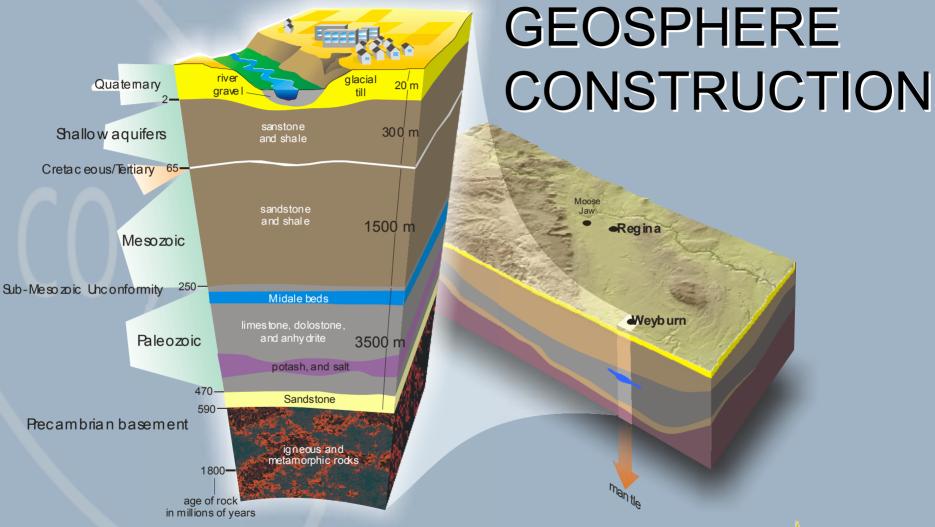




# **Project Results**



#### IEA Weyburn CO<sub>2</sub> Monitoring Project



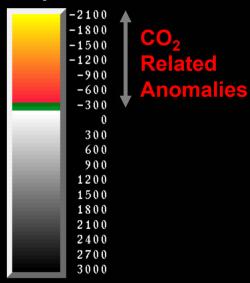




### Seismic Detection of Weyburn Field CO<sub>2</sub> Miscible Flood

EnCana et al. 4-D P-Wave Data (Bin Size 40 x 40 m)

#### **Amp Scale**

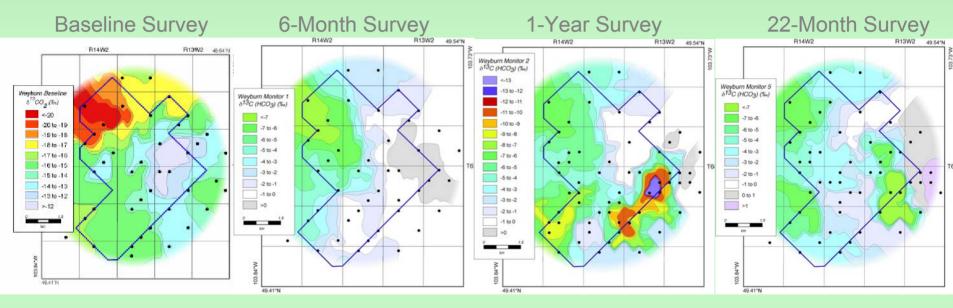


Response well





# Fluids in the Reservoir $\delta$ <sup>13</sup>HCO<sub>3</sub> (aqueous)



Injected CO<sub>2</sub> into solution

pH decreased

 $CO_2 + H_2O \leftrightarrow H^+ + HCO_3^-$ 

Carbonate Mineral dissolution

pH increased

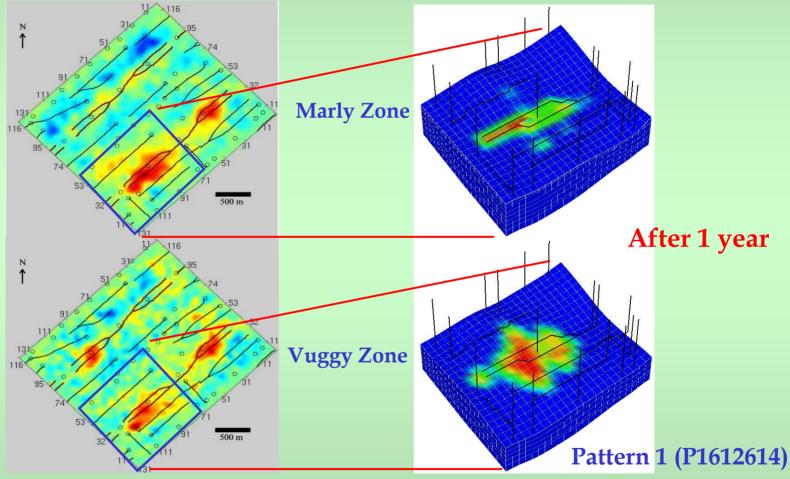
 $CaCO_3 + H^+ \leftrightarrow Ca^{2+} + HCO_3^-$ 







# Integrated Progress Task 4: Monitoring CO<sub>2</sub> Movements



CSM 4D 9C Surface Seismic (P-Impedance Changes) EnCana

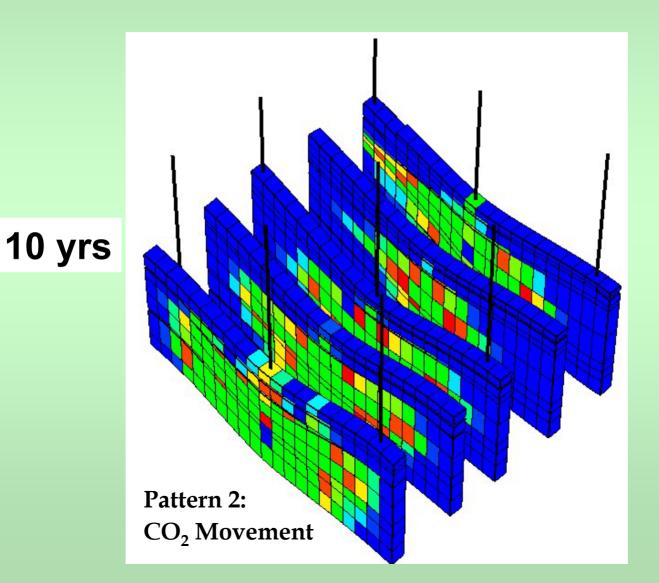
Numerical Simulation by ARC







# **Reservoir Modeling**



1.0 0.9 8.0 Mole Fr. CO<sub>2</sub> in Oil 0.7 0.6 0.5 0.4 0.3 0.2 0.1 0.0



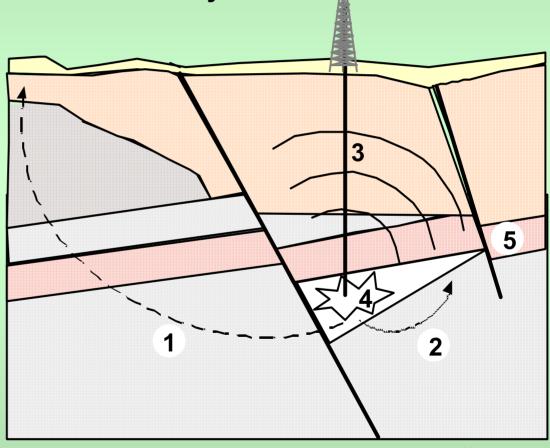




# Risk Assessment (RA) of CO<sub>2</sub> Sequestration

A number of escape scenarios will be analyzed:

- Rapid "shortcircuit" release
- Potential long-term release
- 3. Induced seismic event
- 4. Disruption of host rock
- 5. Release to aquifer









#### **Conclusions**

- Great cooperation and support among sponsors and research providers
- Technically important for credibility of carbon sequestration
- Developing a suite of leading-edge monitoring and verification technologies
- Applicable to many sites around the world (not just EOR)
- Very encouraging results midway through project; major challenges facing the project:
  - 1. Integration of all elements of project
  - 2. Meeting deliverables on time
  - 3. Final project documentation and refereed publications (IPCC report)
  - 4. Many more questions need to be answered, which can be achieved by maximizing interpretation of data
- The commercial flood will continue for another 20+ years. There is a unique opportunity to monitor the flood during the commercial operation and monitor CO<sub>2</sub> storage from "cradle to grave". Should we initiate a Phase II project?





Natural Resources Canada

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